



Sematan

The small fishing port of Sematan, a three hour bus ride from Kuching, serves as the jumping off point for two nearby homestay projects - **Kampung Teluk Serabang** (9 families) and **Kampung Teluk Melano** (11 families). Both villages are located at the tip of Southwest Sarawak, one of the most picturesque strips of coastline in the whole of Sarawak. Activities include boat trips to nearby Tanjung Datu National Park, fishing, scuba diving and snorkelling on nearby artificial reefs, visits to pepper and rubber gardens, jungle trekking, and swimming at white sand beaches in isolated bays surrounded by rainforest-clad mountains.



This is a destination for people who like to get "off the beaten track" as both villages are relatively isolated and receive very few visitors. The boat trip from Sematan jetty to Teluk Serabang and

Teluk Melano takes about one hour in a twin engine speedboat, or 2 hours in a local fishing boat. Please note that owing to high seas there is no boat access during the monsoon season from October to March.

Location Map



Further Information

The Sarawak Fishing Village Homestay Programme is designed for budget travellers, families and small groups, with stays lasting from one night to as much as a week or two. For groups and organisations, homestay visits can be designed in conjunction with personal development courses, team building courses, cultural study and awareness programmes, cultural exchanges and intensive language courses. For further information regarding individual and group homestays, costs and travel details please contact or write to:

General Enquiries:

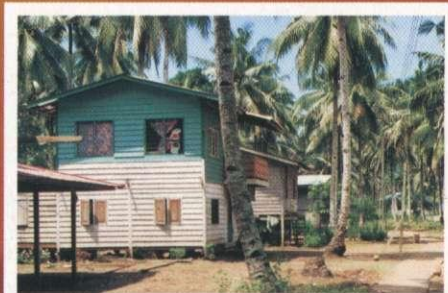
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LEMBAGA KEMAJUAN IKAN MALAYSIA
(FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF MALAYSIA)



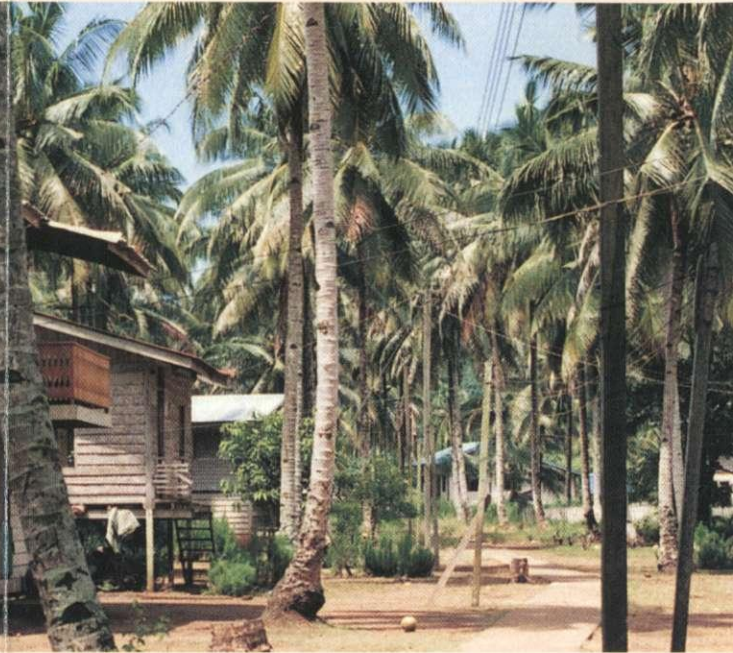
Sarawak Fishing Village Homestay Programme



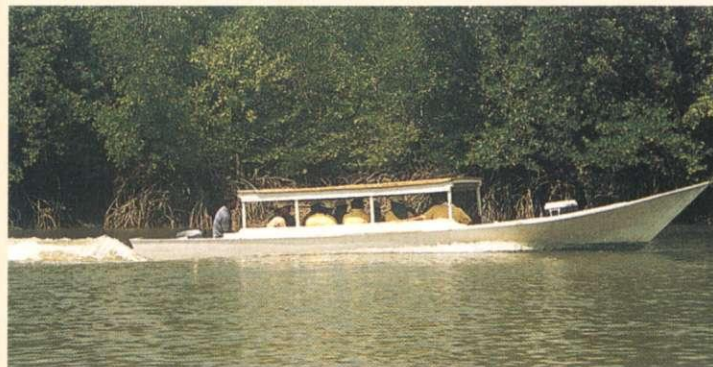
Introduction

The Sarawak Fishing Village Homestay Programme allows visitors to enjoy *kampung* life in a real Malay fishing village. Visitors stay with their host family in a traditional Malay house, eat home-cooked food prepared by their hosts, and take part in everyday village activities. The programme operates in two coastal areas of Southwest Sarawak - **Matang** and **Sematan**. The three participating villages in these areas were chosen because they are working fishing villages that are also located within easy reach of other attractions, such as national parks and white sand beaches. Visitors can choose from a number of leisure activities as well as just soaking up day-to-day life in a typical fishing village.

The Homestay Programme is a community-based project co-ordinated by the Fisheries Development Authority of Malaysia, in co-operation with the Fishermen's Association in the respective villages where the programme operates. The programme is a rural development project which aims to offer visitors the unique opportunity of experiencing life in a typical Sarawak fishing village whilst at the same time creating an additional



source of income for the host community to supplement their traditional economic activities such as fishing and small-scale farming. It is hoped that this community-based approach to tourism will result in genuine cultural exchange between hosts and guests, providing a rewarding insight into one-another's culture, and pleasant memories that last a lifetime.



Matang

Kampung Telaga Air is located in Matang, about 40 minutes by car or bus from Kuching. All eight families involved in the programme live in houses facing or near to the mouth of the Sarawak river, with typical views of river, waterfront and mangroves. Activities include fishing trips (coastal and deep sea), river cruises exploring the mangroves, visits to nearby Kubah National Park and the Matang Wildlife Centre,

cooking demonstrations, barbecues and learning how to make *keropok* (prawn crackers).

Of course the best fun of all will be just hanging around in this friendly village, getting to know the locals and learning about their lifestyle and traditions at first hand. This will be quite an easy task, as almost everybody speaks English (there is at least one member of each host family who is fluent), although they will be delighted to teach you a few words of Malay.

Matang Wildlife Centre is situated close to Telaga Air.

